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Ebookmobile: Delivering Subject-Specific Ebooks to Your Inbox

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Ebookmobile: Delivering Subject-Specific Ebooks to Your Inbox

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Kathryn Lybarger, University of Kentucky ELUNA May 10, 2012

Abundance and Austerity

• An abundance of information is available

 Scarcity of resources needed to identify and process it



• True for both libraries and their patrons

Patrons are busy



They need library resources

• They need **very specific** library resources

• They need to know about **new ones** as they become available

Selective Dissemination of Information

• Concept formalized in the 1950's



- On an ongoing basis:
 - Find new resources based on an interest profile
 - Alert the patron

Alerts may be email, RSS, text messaging

New book shelf



Ebooks don't fit on a shelf

• Not physical, visible, browseable objects

• Ebooks selected hundreds (or thousands) at a time

• Lengthy title lists are not useful

• Related items may not be collocated

Vendor sites are searchable

Same tot - the hast site

| D SpringerLink | | | | | |
|--|--------|--|--------|--------------|-----|
| ADVANCED SEARCH | | | | Advanced Sea | |
| CONTENT | | | | Search Tip | |
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| ALL CATEGORIES | | MOST RELEVANT FIRST MOST RECENTLY PUBLISHED FIRST ALPHABETICAL | | SHED FIRST | ~~~ |
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Browse by Subject 🔺

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Advanced search

Search by entering a word or phrase in the search field. Add new row(s) to include additional words or phrases and refine your search further.

Search:

| Full text | |
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| And 🗘 Full text 🛟 | [-] Remove row |
| [+] Add row Print Pub. Date: From To | Exact Exact |
| Clear Search | |



Some vendors have alerts

and the way it with the back of the second

| Ноте | Textbooks | Multimedia | Q&A | Drugs | Updates | Dx Tests | DDx | Guidelines | Quick Answers |
|------|-----------|------------|-----|----------|-----------|----------|-----|------------|-----------------------|
| | | | | All Acce | ssMedicin | e | | search | Enable Autosuggest |

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Updates Include:

- Concise Reviews and Editorials
- Medical News
- Updates to the books
- New drug therapies
- Late-breaking clinical trial data

...but that's not sufficient

• That's a lot of places to check!

• We may not subscribe to all of a vendor's content

• Patrons may only care about narrow subjects

Catalog ebooks

• Ebooks from all vendors gathered in one place

• Catalog records have useful information indexed for searching

• Links proxied for use off-campus

Keywords?





Subject headings?

• May work somewhat:

- Fruit trade
 - Fruit trade History
 - Fruit trade Ohio



- Broad interests may not find narrower subjects:
 - Algebra
 - Matrices
 - Eigenvalues

Classification!

• QA150-255 – Algebra

- QA188-196 Matrices
 - QA193 Eigenvalues and eigenvectors



Do/Should ebooks have call numbers?

• They aren't actually shelved in the stacks

• Patrons may look at the shelf anyway



• Extra work to assign classification

Classification is often available

• Ebook records are often based on print records

• May appear in bibliographic record, not holdings

• Without call number indexed, searching difficult

Difficult, but...

• Database (blob) searches can be done

Same searches to be repeated often

• Update results of old search



Ebookmobile

• Software developed at the University of Kentucky

• Finds new ebooks in Voyager based on classification in bibliographic record

• Sends alerts via Atom feed



New titles list for print

MISS UK Libraries New Titles RSS Feeds By Subject

- General Works
- Philosophy, Psychology
- <u>Religion:Religions, Hinduism, Judaism, Islam, Buddhism</u>
- Christianity. Bible
- Auxiliary Sciences of History
- History (General) and History of Europe
- History of Asia, Africa, Australia, New Zealand, etc.
- History: American (Western Hemisphere)
- Geography, Maps, Anthropology, Recreation
- Social Sciences
- Political Science
- Law
- Education
- Music and Books on Music
- Fino Arts

Why re-invent the wheel?

• We don't classify our ebooks in our holdings

• No labeling / processing delay



• When licensing allows, multiple patrons can use simultaneously

Multiple classifications

• A title about SQL may be classified:

- QA76.73.S67
 - Mathematics Instruments and machines Calculating machines – Electronic computers. Computer science – Digital computers – Programming languages – Individual languages, A-Z – SQL. MySQL
- HF5548.5.S65
 - Commerce Business Data processing Computer program languages or markup languages, A-Z – SQL/ ORACLE

Create new feeds

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| -New | EBook Feed reque | st | |
|--------|------------------|------|--|
| Title | | | |
| | Mathematics | | |
| Call 1 | Number: | | |
| | QA | – QB | |
| Call 1 | Number: | | |
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| Call 1 | Number: | | |
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| Crea | ate New Feed | | |

Atom feed (rendered by Safari)

Math

Land the set in i

Definitive guide to GCC EbookMobile Today, 10:21 PM

Definitive guide to GCC [electronic resource] / William von Hagen.



Human-Computer Interaction: Design and Development Approaches EbookMobile Today, 10:21 PM

Human-Computer Interaction: Design and Development Approaches [electronic resource]: 14th International Conference, HCI International 2011, Orla / Julie A. Jacko (ed.)



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Definitive guide to GCC

EbookMobile

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The definitive guide to GCC

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|------------------|--|--|--|
| Author: | Von Hagen, William. | | |
| Other Author(s): | SpringerLink (Online service) | | |
| Publisher: | Berkeley, CA : Apress, c2006. | | |
| ISBN: | 9781430202196 (electronic bk.) | | |
| | 143020219X (electronic bk.) | | |
| Description: | 2nd ed. | | |
| | xxix, 550 p. : ill. | | |
| Format: | Book | | |
| Subjects: | Compilers (Computer programs) | | |
| Internet Access: | SpringerLink CLICK HERE for Internet access to title | | |
| Notes: | Includes index. | | |
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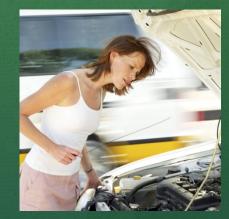
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| Computat applicatio Summary | | Kathryn Lybarger |
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Under the hood

• Feeds are Atom 1.0 (similar to RSS)

• Code written in PHP / Javascript

• Running on separate server (not Voyager)



- A MySQL database stores:
 - Feed specifications
 - Cached information about ebooks, updated daily
- Google Books API for covers

Decisions, decisions

• What makes an ebook new?

- Only when newly cataloged?
- When modified?
- When certain fields (classification) modified?

- How far back to show in feed?
 - Two weeks? One month?
 - Different per feed?

Status/Future plans

Currently testing with just a few feeds/patrons at UK

• Open more broadly to University of Kentucky library patrons (June 2012)

 Open more broadly to other Voyager customers (Fall 2012)

My questions

• Is EBM more useful as open-source software or as a service?

• Should Patron-Driven Acquisitions discovery records appear on feeds?

Any other questions?